

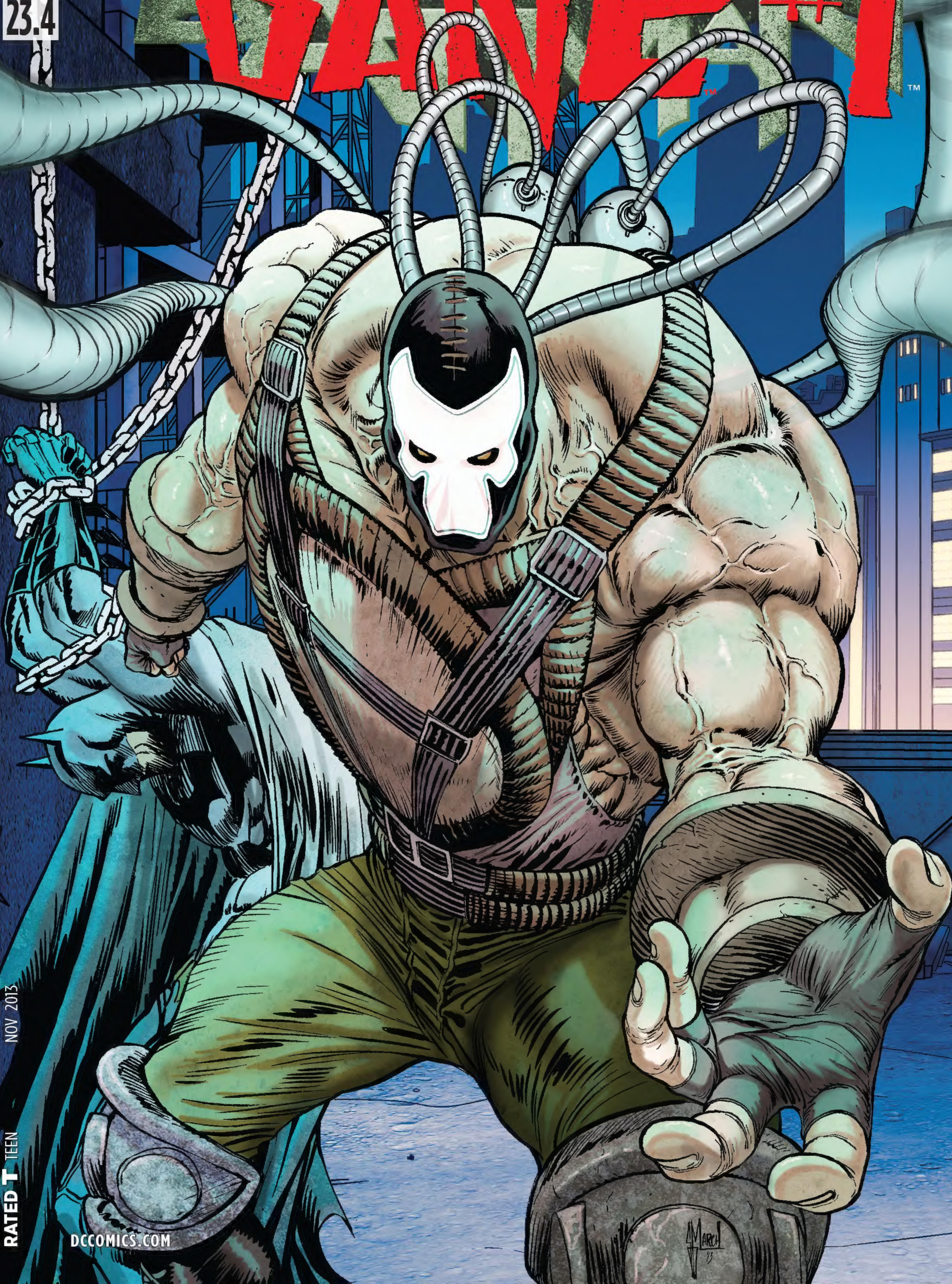
THE NEW 52!



DC
COMICS™

23.4

REAPER #1



NOV 2013

RATED T TEEN

DCCOMICS.COM

MARCH
13

LONG AGO,
THESE HANDS TOOK
DOWN THE ONE MAN
WHO HAD NEVER
BEFORE FALLEN. I TOOK
THIS MAN'S CITY AND I
TOOK THIS MAN'S
HOPE.

BUT HE
ROSE AGAIN LIKE
A DEVIL, AND HIS
CITY WAS STOLEN
FROM ME.

HE IS GONE
AGAIN, TAKEN
BY THE HANDS OF
OTHERS, AND NOW
I WANT THE CITY
BACK.

I HAVE
REFINED MY
VENOM.

ITS UNIQUE
PROPERTIES
ENHANCE MY
STRENGTH.

A SMALL
DOSE FLOWS
THROUGH YOU,
AS WELL.

FEEL
ITS GIFT
AND COMPLETE
THE SINGLE TASK
I ASK OF YOU
BEFORE I LEAVE
THIS PLACE...

...TRY
AND KILL
ME IF YOU
CAN!

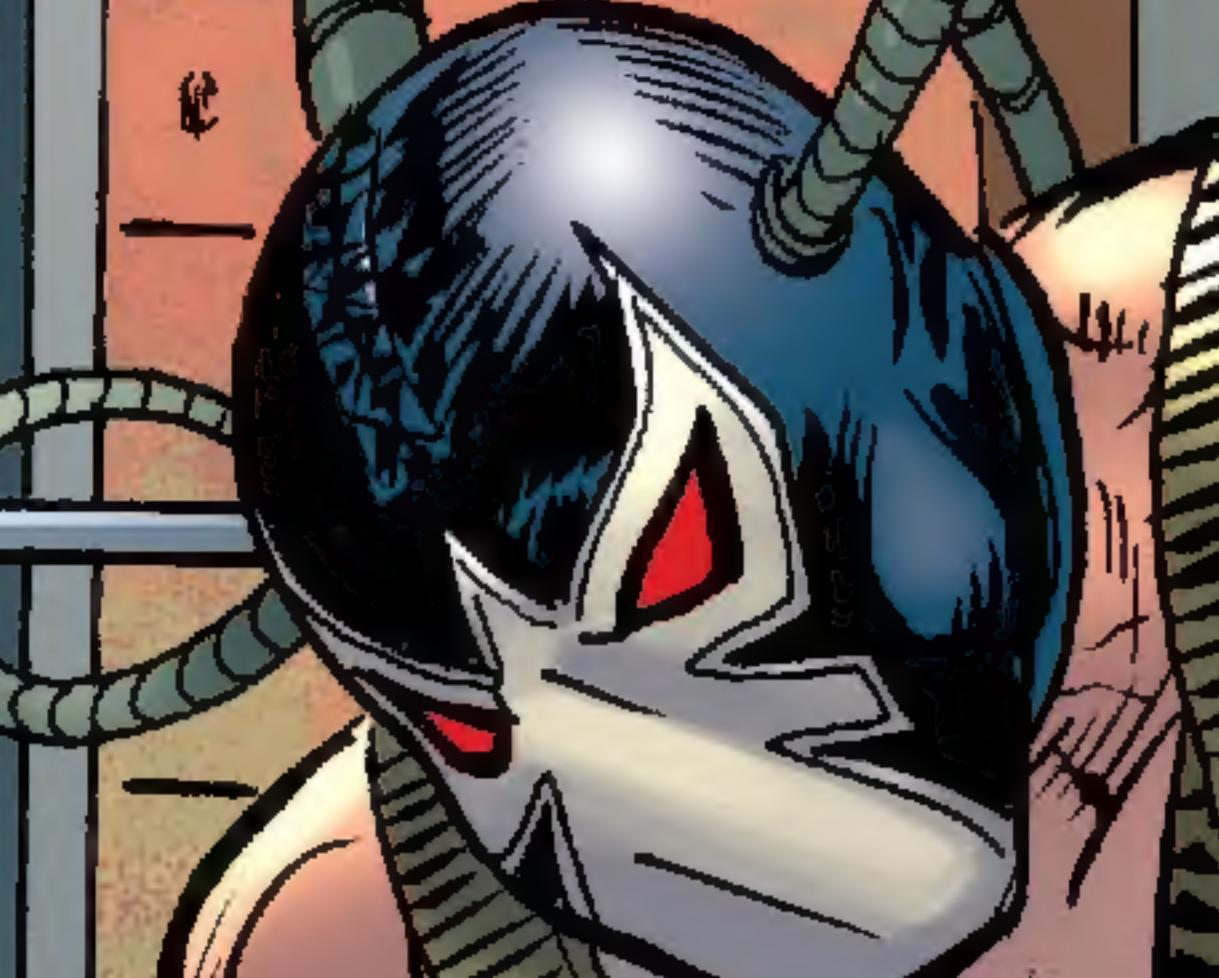


THE CARIBBEAN REPUBLIC OF SANTA PRISCA.

PEÑA DURA PRISON.

A BODY AT REST STAYS AT REST.
A BODY IN MOTION STAYS IN MOTION.

SKLATCH



WILL ANY
OF YOU MAKE
THAT HAPPEN?!

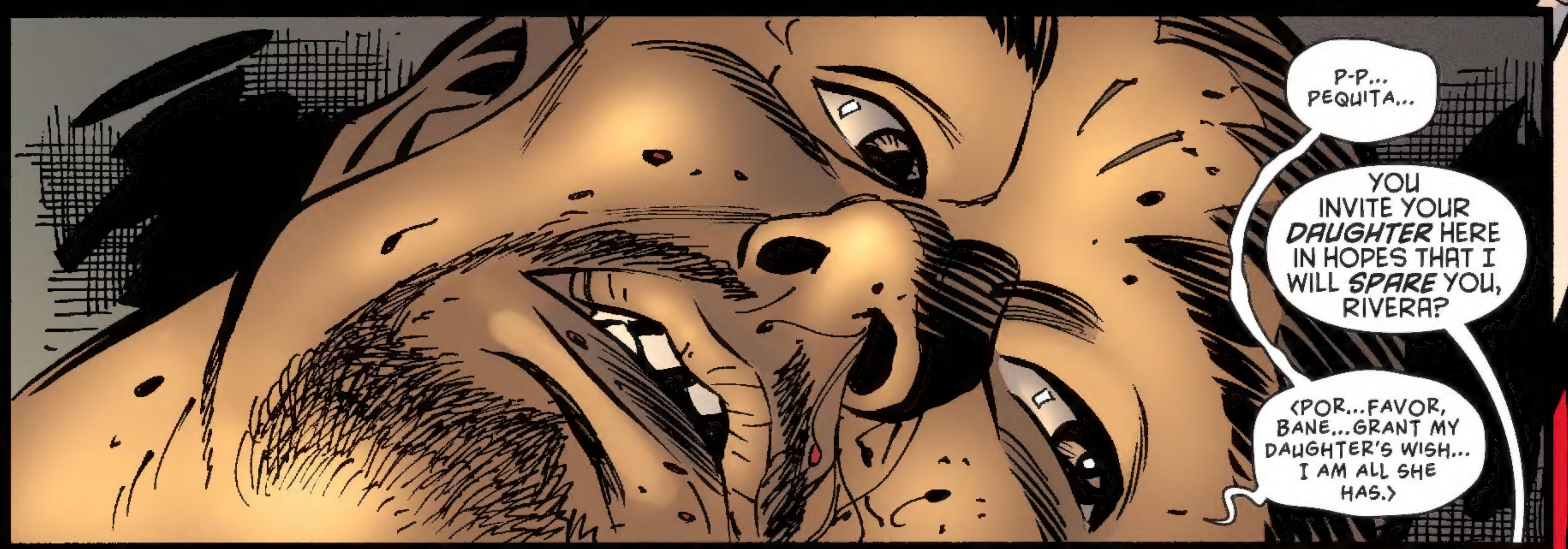
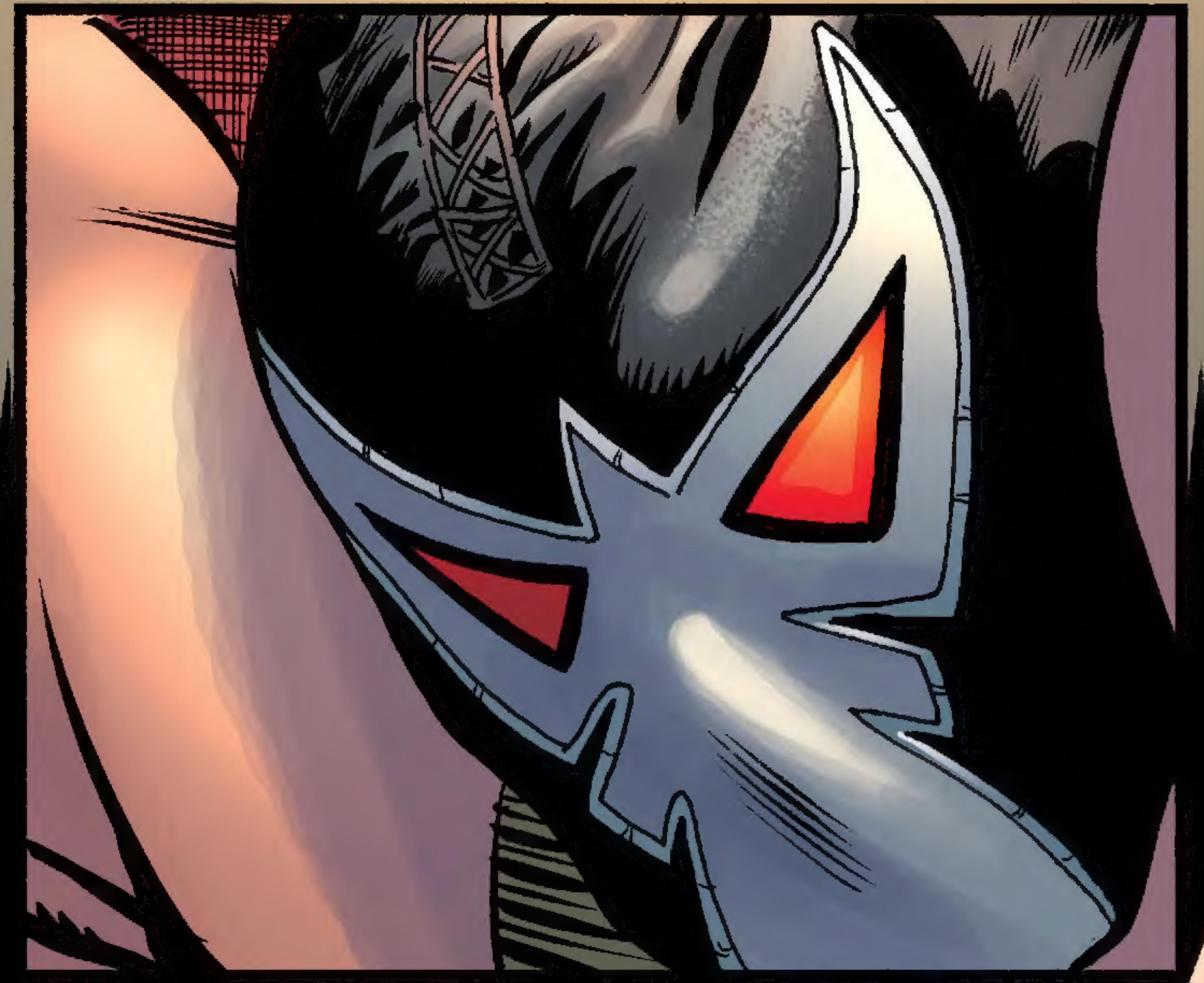
DC COMICS UNLEASHES **BANE**
DARK DESTINY

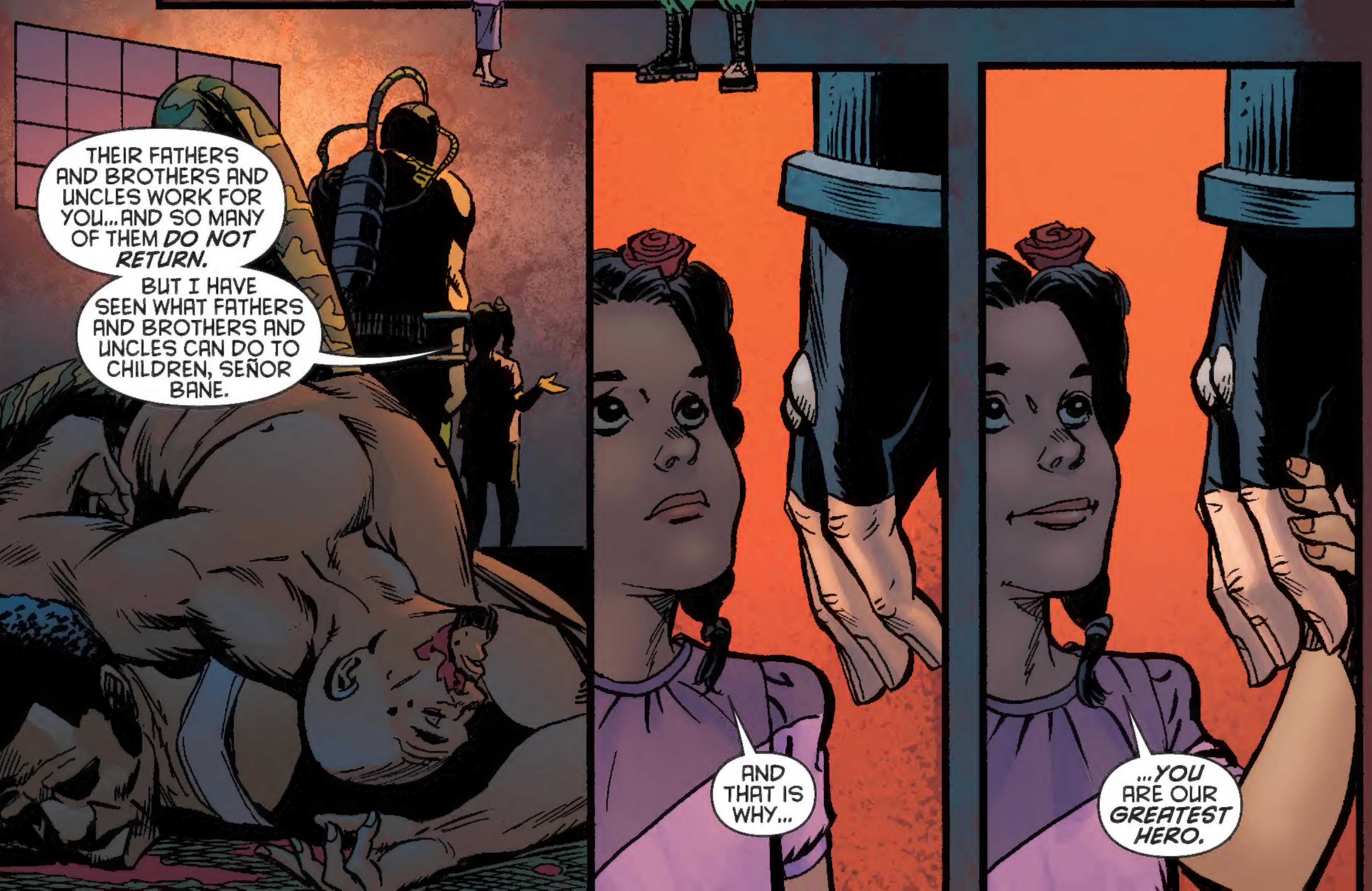
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HOURS LATER...

"I SERVE
BANE BECAUSE HE
CARRIES THE SOUL
OF SANTA PRISCA
IN HIS HANDS--"

--SOME
FORGET, BUT I
REMEMBER...

"...HIS FATHER WAS A
REVOLUTIONARY WHO STOOD
UP FOR THOSE OF US WHO
HAD ALWAYS BEEN BENEATH
THE GOVERNMENT'S
BOOT--"

WHAM

--HIS FATHER,
ALWAYS CUNNING,
ESCAPED. AND BANE, STILL
A CHILD, TOOK HIS PLACE
IN PEÑA DURA PRISON.

"BANE PAID HIS FATHER'S
DUE... THE TRUE TEST
OF A SANTA PRISCAN."

"OVER MANY YEARS,
BANE WAITED--HE GREW
STRONGER--WISER
AND CUNNING."

BAMM

"SOME WILL SAY THAT
THE VENOM THAT COURSES
THROUGH HIS VEINS MADE THE
MAN STRONGER--THAT HE WAS
SOMETHING LESS UNTIL
THE VENOM."

"BUT THE
FAITHFUL KNOW
THAT IT WAS THE
MAN WHO BECAME
GREAT FIRST."

"THE FAITHFUL
KNOW THAT
VENOM IS JUST
HIS BLOOD."

SKRAK
WHAM

"THAT IT ADAPTED TO
HIS PHYSIOLOGY LIKE A
MIRROR TO REFLECT
HIS MAGNIFICENCE."

"AS HIS LEGEND GREW, HE SAW IN A FARAWAY LAND ANOTHER REFLECTION. A CITY THAT HOUSED DARK MADNESS THAT EVEN THOSE THROUGHOUT AMERICA FEARED.

"AN UNTAMABLE CITY."

"AND THEN, LIKE ALL GREAT MEN, HE SAW SOMETHING HE WANTED AND DECIDED TO TAKE IT."

"BUT THAT CITY HAD A PROTECTOR."

"AN OTHERWORLDLY DEMON WHO USED CUNNING AND TRICKERY TO STOP BANE FROM ACHIEVING A GREAT VICTORY TIME AND AGAIN."

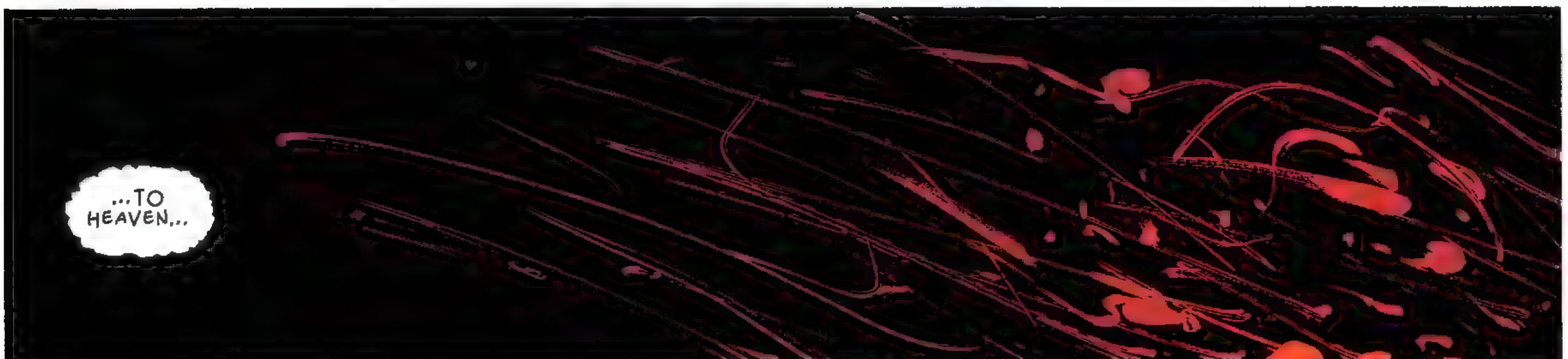
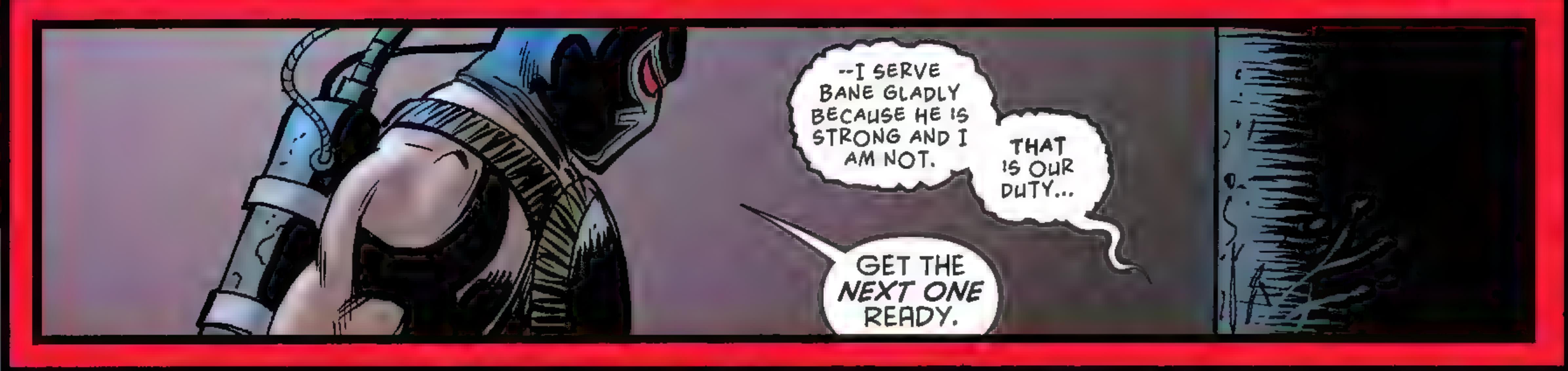
"THE DEMON THOUGHT HE WAS THE CITY'S KNIGHT..."

...BUT HE ONLY DELAYED WHAT HAS BEEN LONG COMING...

HMM?

THE SOCIETY'S REACH EXTENDS TO THE MOON.

..BANE BUILT AN ARMY OUT OF ALL WHO WOULD FOLLOW, AND IT'S NOW RISING AT HIS COMMAND--





THIS
WORLD
IS OURS.

THE
WORLD
IS OURS

THIS
WORLD
IS OURS

...WHAT
THE
HELL...?

THIS
WORLD
IS OURS

THIS
WORLD
IS OURS.

IT'S
ON MY
SCREEN,
TOO.

ATTENTION ALL SECURITY PERSONNEL, THIS IS WARDEN ZORBATOS, LET ME SAY UPFRONT, PEOPLE, THAT I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY SOB STORIES ABOUT YOUR FAMILIES.

YOU HAVE A JOB TO DO--IT'S HERE, KEEPING THESE ANIMALS FROM YOUR FAMILIES.

SOME OF YOU HAVE LIVED THROUGH THIS KIND OF THING BEFORE... RECENTLY EVEN. IT'S WHY YOU GET THE BIG BUCKS.

BUT UNTIL WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE, OUR JOB IS TO KEEP OVER TWO THOUSAND OF THE MOST DANGEROUS PRISONERS THIS SIDE OF ARKHAM CONTAINED IN THEIR CELLS.

IF THESE DOORS SWING OPEN, THEY'VE ESSENTIALLY GOT A SMALL ARMY AGAINST OUR SKELETON CREW, DONALD.

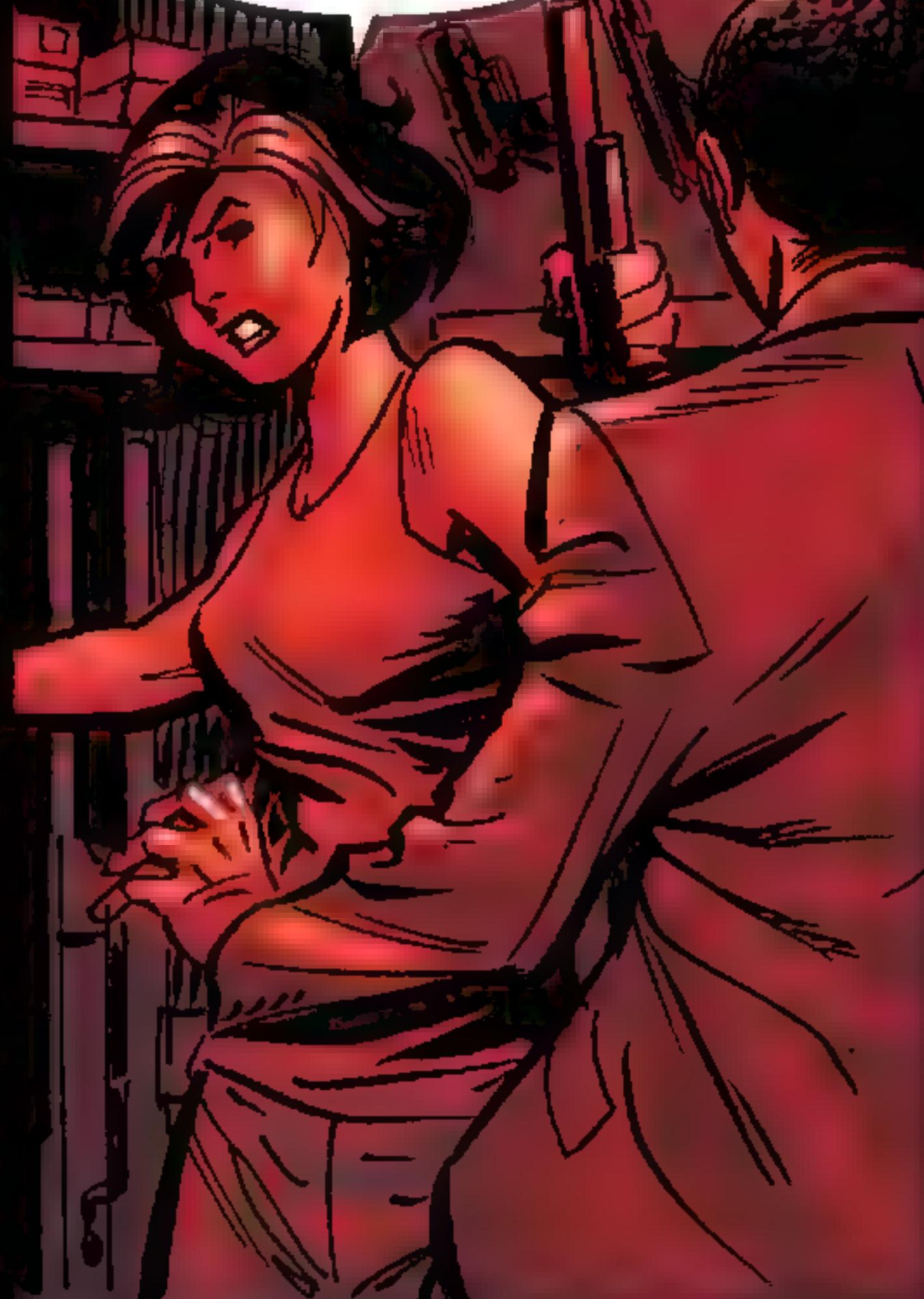
UHM... I'VE NEVER FIRED A GUN BEFORE...

ALWAYS A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING. AND TAKE EXTRA SHELLS. IF THINGS GET BAD...

...MY GUESS IS I'M NEVER GOING TO MAKE IT TO HAWAII.

X-CHAK

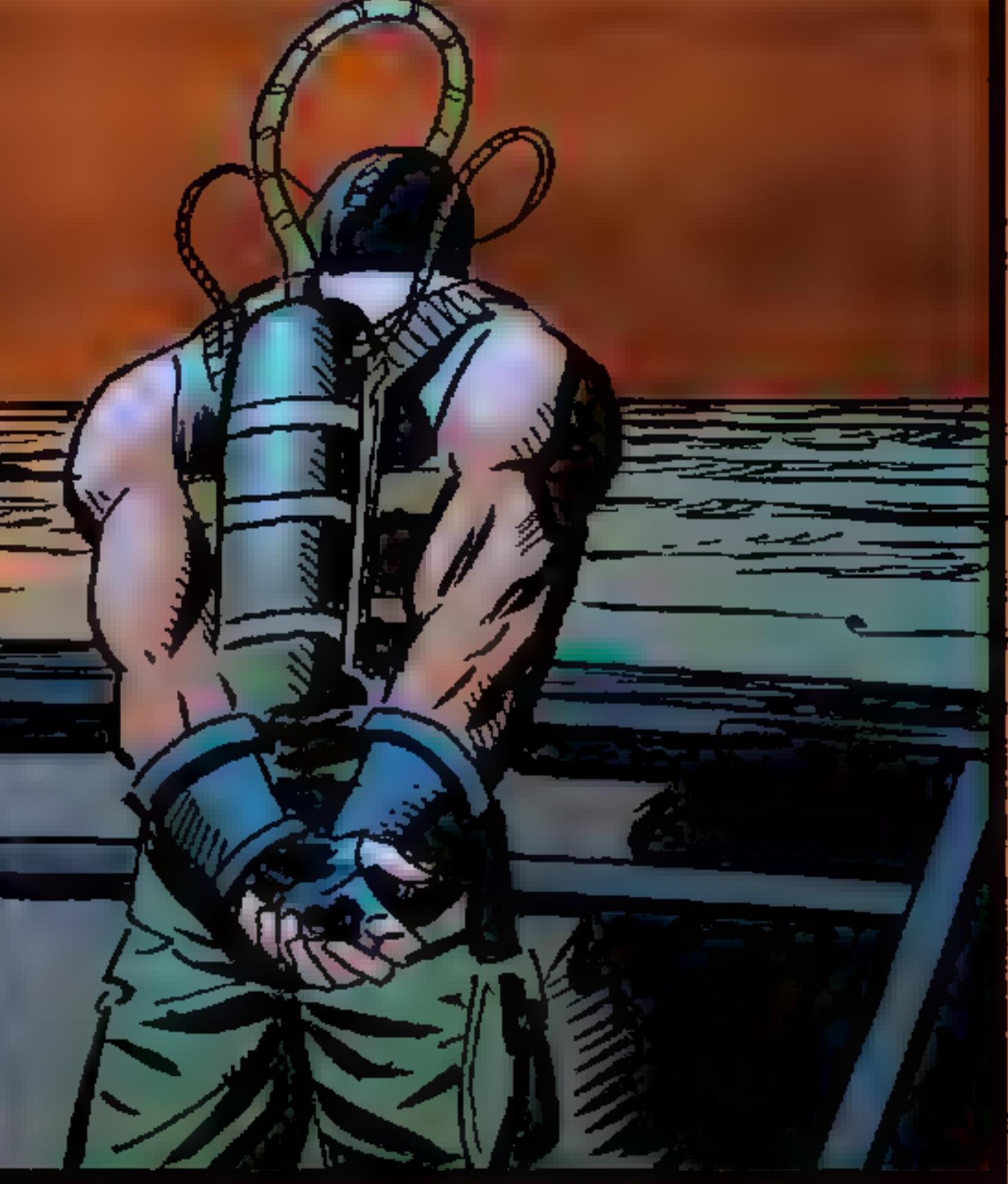
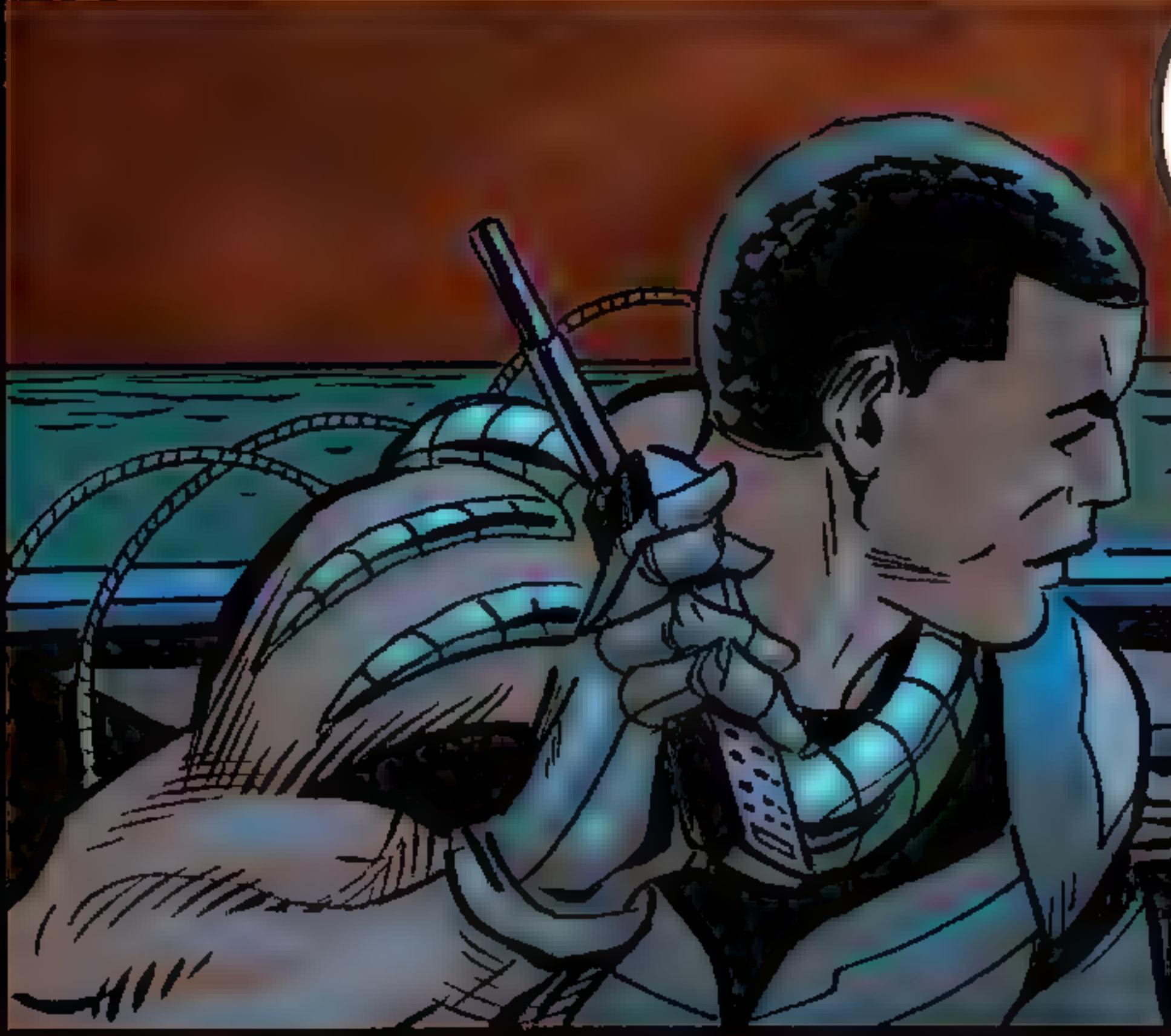
DONALD-- STAY HERE AND FIRE AT ANYTHING THAT COMES THROUGH THIS--





HIYA,
WARDEN.

BANE
CALLED
AHEAD.



SATELLITE PHONE'S GONE DEAD, BUT THE LAST TRANSMISSION SAID BLACKGATE IS NOW UNDER CONTROL.

YOUR MEN INFILTRATED THE GUARDS EASILY, AND THE PRISON POPULATION IS EAGER TO COOPERATE.

THE POLICE KNOW NOTHING, THEY HAVE THEIR HANDS FULL WITH THE ARKHAM SITUATION.



I KNOW THEM WELL, MALICIA, AND THE ARKHAMITES ARE AS IDIOTIC AS THEY ARE INSANE.

RECENTLY, I WAS CALLED AMONG THEM AND THEIR PLAN IS TO WASTE TIME AND RESOURCES CUTTING GOTHAM LIKE A PIE--ALL TO SHOW OFF THEIR DIFFERENT BRANDS OF MADNESS TO EACH OTHER.

THE FOOLS DO NOT RESPECT WHAT THEY HAVE WON, AND THAT IS WHY I WILL TAKE IT.



I WIN BECAUSE I ALWAYS RESPECT THE PREY.



FLY AHEAD WITH A DOSE OF VENOM. SEND ONE OF OUR BLACKGATE GUARDS OUT INTO THE CITY ON A HUNT.

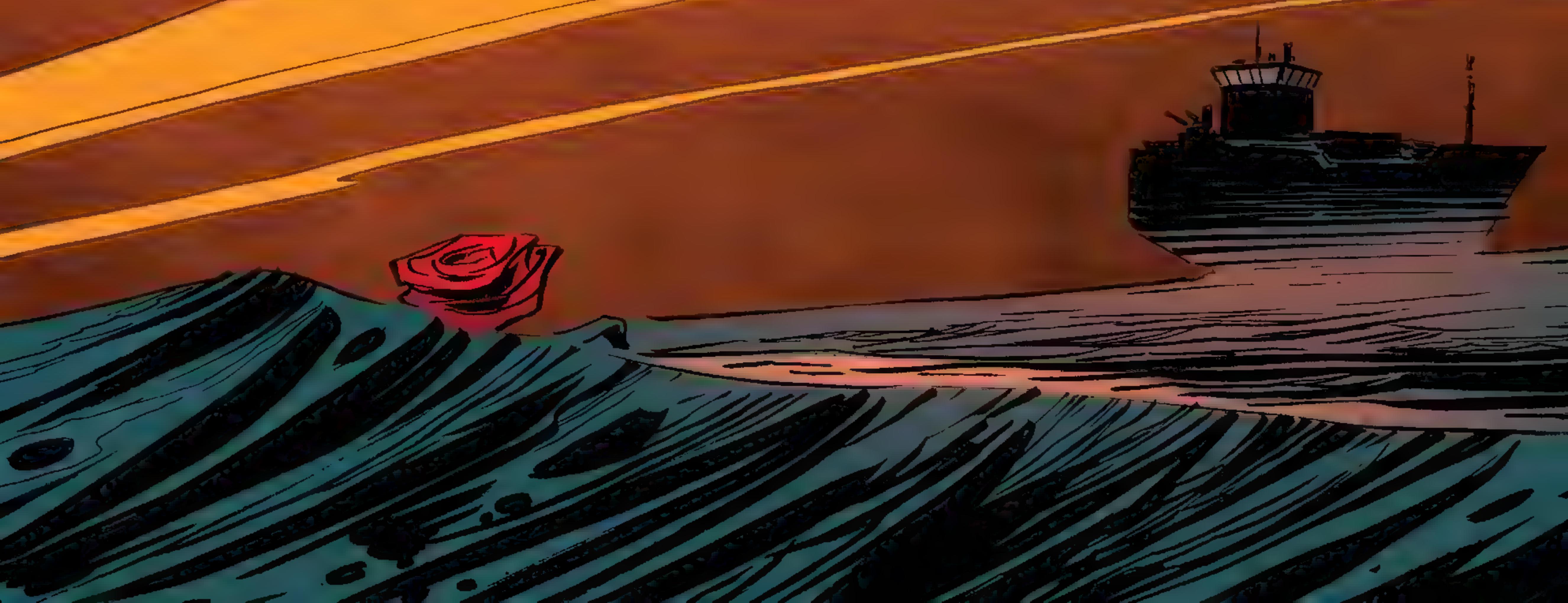
I WANT THE ONE WHO THINKS HE IS SMARTER THAN THE REST--THE ONE WHO THRIVES ON FEAR.

THE SCARECROW. THEY ALL DESPISE HIM.

TAKE THE CROW DOWN AND THE REST WILL UNDERSTAND THIS WAR CANNOT BE AVOIDED AS I GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TRULY FEAR.



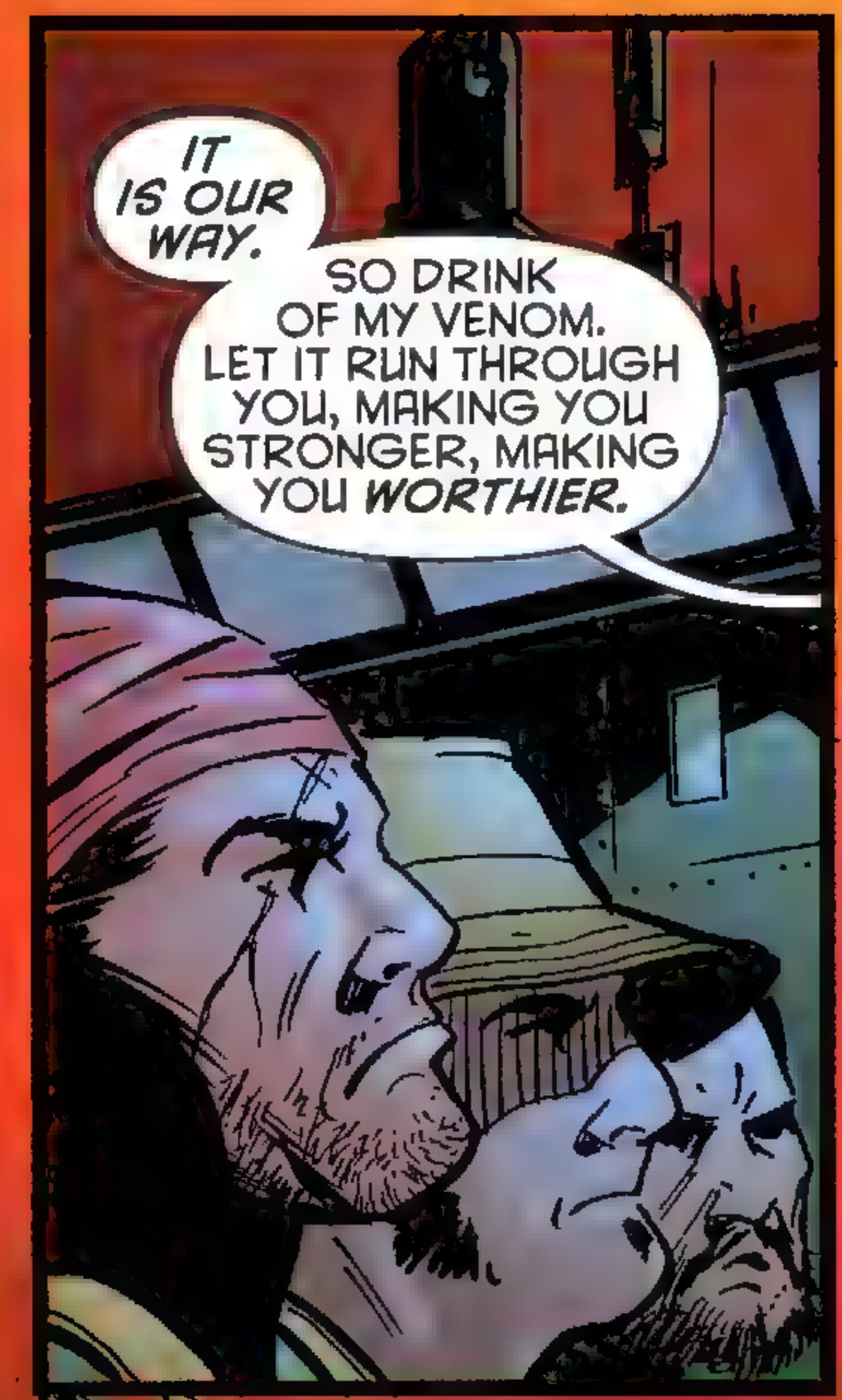
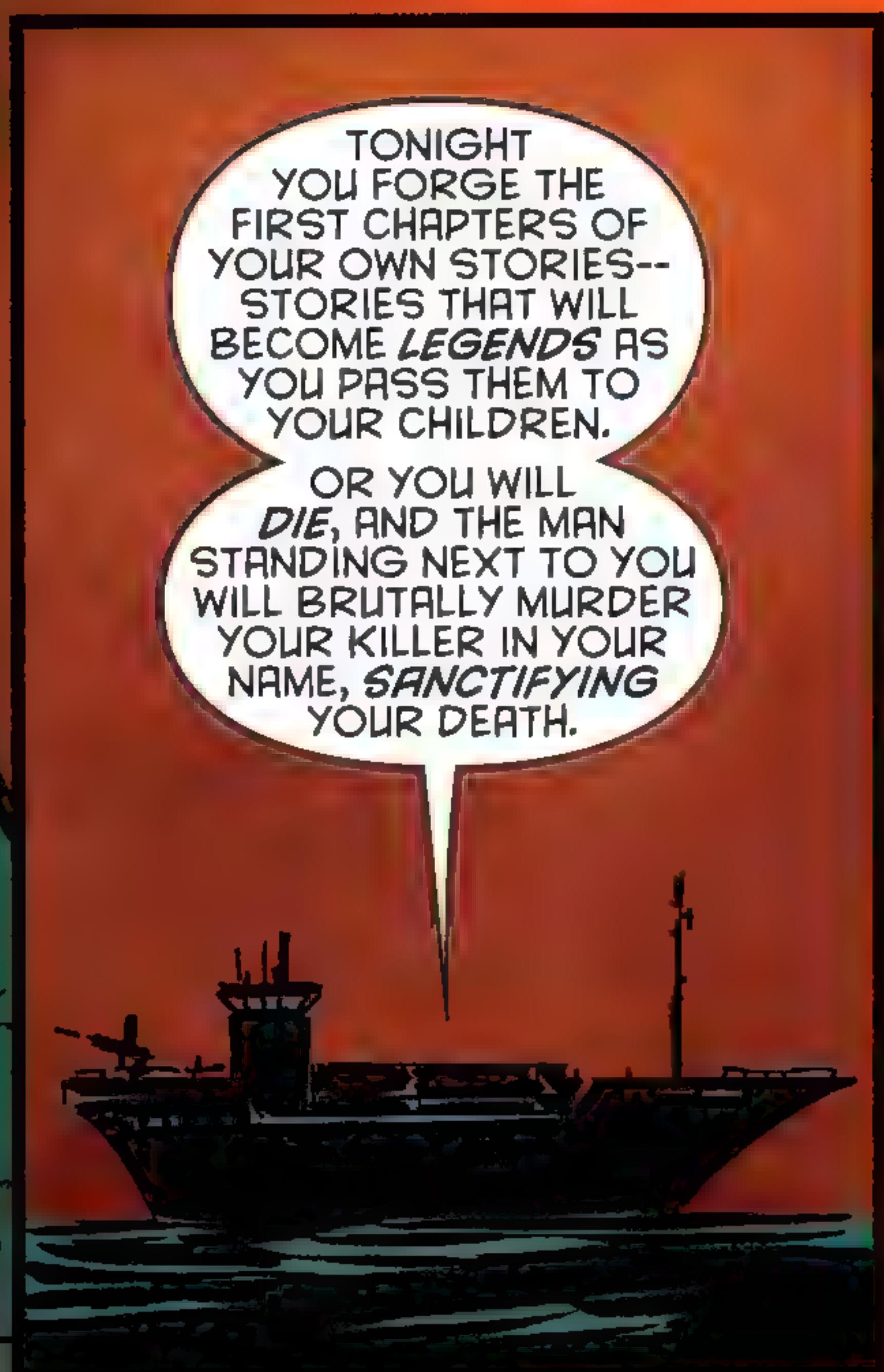
THEN WE PREPARE THE MEN.
GO.



OFF THE COAST OF GOTHAM CITY.

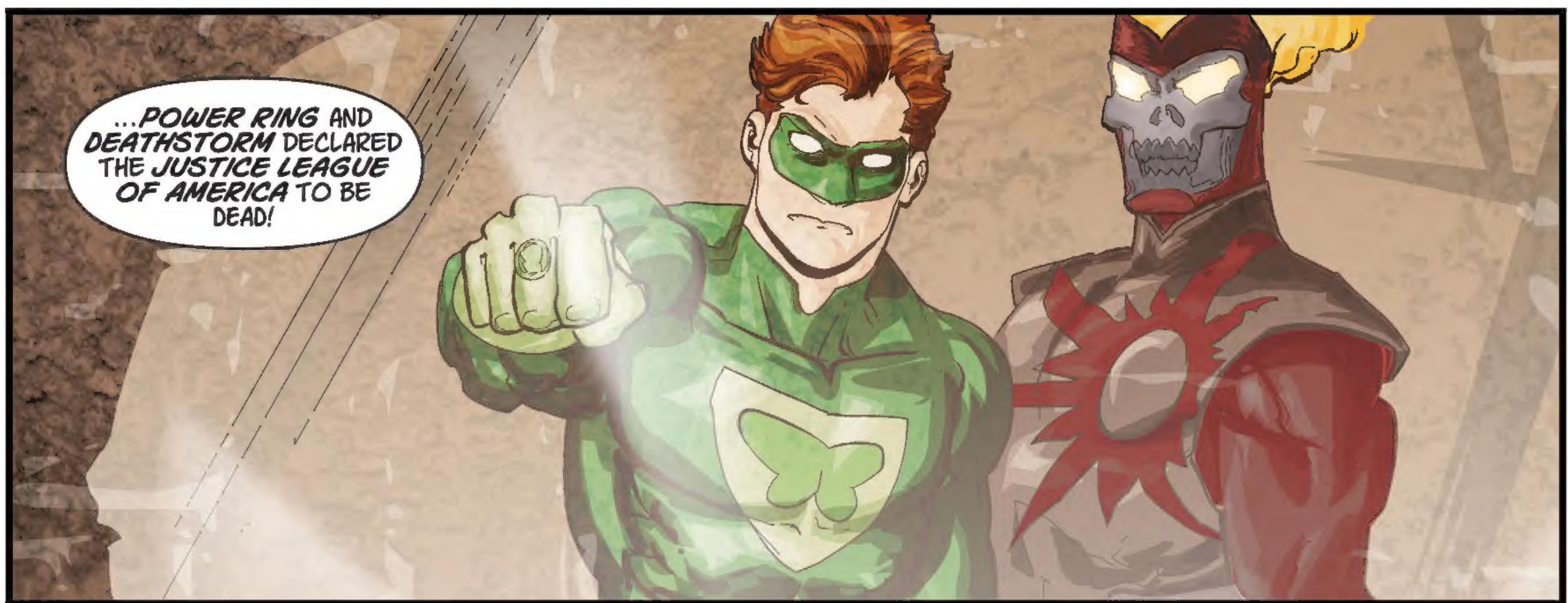
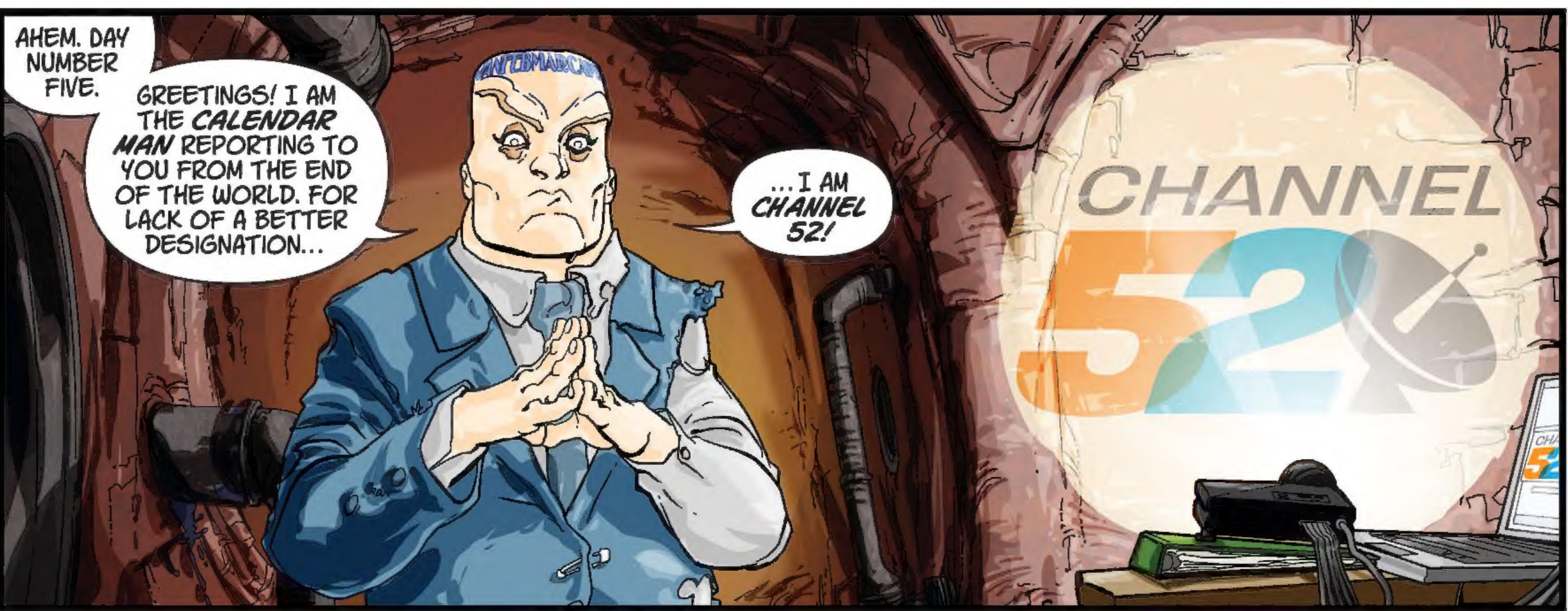
THESE GIFTS
ARE YOURS. ARM
YOURSELVES!





...AND
GOTHAM
CITY IS
MINE!

TO BE CONTINUED IN
FOREVEREVIL
ARKHAM WAR #1



AND HERE IS JOHNNY QUICK ALONG WITH WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE THE ONE KNOWN AS ATOMICA.

I HAVE DETERMINED FROM SOCIETY MEMBERS HERE IN GOTHAM CITY THAT ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE GROUP, GRID, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORLDWIDE OUTAGE OF POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS.

IRONICALLY, IT WAS THE ARRIVAL OF THESE OVERLORDS THAT FREED ME FROM MY... PREDICAMENT IN THE GOTHAM UNDERGROUND.

REALIZING THAT THE ENSUING CHAOS COULD RESULT IN THE END OF ALL RECORD KEEPING, I KNEW I HAD TO ACT.

WITH A GAS POWERED GENERATOR AND COMPUTER SCAVENGED FROM EMPTY OFFICE BUILDINGS I AM NOW... FINALLY... THE KEEPER OF ALL DAYS AND DATES.

AS THE DAYS GO BY I FIND MORE AND MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE NEWS THAT ARKHAM ASYLUM, BELLE REVE, BLACKGATE, IRON HEIGHTS AND STRYKER'S ISLAND PRISONS HAVE ALL BEEN BREACHED AND THEIR INMATES RELEASED.

WITH THOSE PRISON BREAKS SWELLING THE RANKS OF THE SECRET SOCIETY AND NO HEROES SHOWING ANY SIGNS OF RETALIATION, WE ARE LEFT TO WONDER WHAT IS NEXT.

WHATEVER THESE DAYS, WEEKS AND MONTHS MAY HOLD... I WILL BE HERE RECORDING THE EVENTS.

I AM THE CALENDAR MAN AND I AM CHANNEL 52.

CHANNEL
52

The Last Kryptonian-DCP



THE LAST KRYPTONIAN-DCP